

REMARKS

The only issues outstanding in the Office Action mailed January 30, 2006, are the objections to the claims and the rejections under 35 U.S.C §§112 and 101. The Examiner is thanked for indicating the allowability of all claims over art, and for rejoining the withdrawn claims in the present Office Action. Reconsideration of all the outstanding issues, in view of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Objections to Claims

Claims 1, 8 and 14 have been objected to as the result of various typographic and formatting errors. Appropriate corrections have been made to the claims, which corrections do not change the scope of the claims either literally, or for purposes of the doctrine of equivalents. It is respectfully submitted that the objections should be withdrawn.

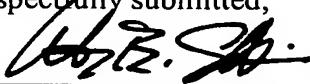
Rejections Under 35 U.S.C §§112 and 101

Claims 10 - 13 have been rejected under both 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph and under §101, as a result of the alleged failure to recite active steps. In fact, it is submitted that the claims, in Jepson format, *do* recite active steps inasmuch as they recite a process "comprising hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting a hydrocarbon feed." Hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting are process steps. In any event, the claims have been clarified, in a manner which does not change their scope, either literally or for purposes of the doctrine of equivalents. It is submitted that the rejection should accordingly be withdrawn.

The claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner has any questions or comments, he or she is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



Harry B. Shubin, Reg. No. 32,004
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

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